

**PUBLIC HEARING - Flood Districts/Flood Proofing
December 9, 2013**

Members Present: Douglas Baker, Mayor
Donna Fletcher, Deputy Mayor
Samuel Lyons
Jennifer M Horne
Ryan Rudegeair
Garnet Wood

Members Excused: James Marshall

In Attendance: E. William Gabrys, City Manager
Tracy Jamieson, Deputy Manager
Brian Spaid, Esq., City Solicitor
Chuck Gibbons, Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer
Darla Hawke, Recording Secretary
Mike Scanlon, 1614 Elk Street
Virginia Kopchak, 1130 Otter Street
Rick Carter, 1122 Otter Street
Patrick Cashbrook, 1422 Liberty Street
Lisa Hugus, 207-11th Street
Denny Paden, Franklin Alliance Church
Sam Saeli, 1116 Old Mercer Road
Sally Reed, 1117 Otter Street
Elizabeth C Leshi & David Paybylek, 933 Elk Street
Sally Kilmer, 217 Evergreen Drive
Amy & Joe Dick, 1044 Elk Street
Laura Moore, 1228 Otter Street
Daniel Weiland, 1 Parkway
Rachael & Jim Ashbaugh, 1428 Elk Street
Robert YaSenka, 1520 Elk Street
Kimberly A Irwin, 725 Elk Street
Barb Miller, 426 Elk Street
Dianne Hall, 1109 Elk Street
John Estok, 1402 Otter Street
Bob Reitz, 1004 Liberty Street
John Andrew Bell, 223 Elk Street
Jeremy Johnson, Venango Newspapers, Inc.

Mayor Baker called the hearing to order at 7:01 PM.

Mr. Sam Saeli asked whether he would have to purchase flood insurance since some of his properties are now located in the flood district. Mr. Gibbons informed him that, if property

owners do not have a mortgage, they would not have to purchase flood insurance. Mr. Gibbons added that the purpose of this ordinance was to allow those persons who need to purchase flood insurance can now do so at a lower rate.

Mr. Scanlon voiced his concerns that adopting this ordinance may affect the City of Franklin more than anyone else, as far as costs are concerned, due to the location of its Water & Wastewater Treatment Plants and industrial incubator being located in the floodplain. However, he did acknowledge the City did not have much choice in the matter as FEMA designates these zones.


Mr. Scanlon also asked why Monkey Run and Chubb Run were not included in the flood plan. Mr. Gibbons explained that, in 2010, Mr. Spence, former City Engineer's Assistant, asked FEMA why those runs and White Run were not included in the flood plan. FEMA advised him that it was because they did not meet FEMA's definition of a "watercourse."

Mr. Reitz, who runs a local insurance office, addressed flood insurance concerns. In his opinion, being located in a flood district could drastically reduce the chances of being able to sell your home in the future, along with its resale value. He noted that, in several other states, he has seen premiums rise from \$4,000/year to \$40,000/year.

In response to Mr. Wood, Mr. Gibbons advised that he would be in charge of managing the City's Flood District Ordinance and advised those in attendance that, both the maps and the ordinance are available to view at Franklin City Hall.

There being no further questions or comments from the public, the hearing was adjourned at 7:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Darla Hawke, Recording Secretary